

of outstanding service to the cookie and cracker industry. May the association continue to thrive and produce products that will delight families for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JONA GOLDRICH

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to join the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles' Real Estate & Construction Division in paying tribute to Jona Goldrich, for his generous service to a great variety of worthy organizations and causes and to the Jewish community worldwide. Jona has given tirelessly of his every resource, including the most cherished—his time—to improve the lives of his fellow citizens. He is to be saluted at a special dinner in his honor on May 31st in Los Angeles.

Jona is one of the most active supporters of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles in its mission to provide a wide array of agencies and programs with funds for food, shelter, health care, education, counseling, rescue and resettlement for individuals in need.

Jona came to the United States as an immigrant and created a real estate company so successful that he is widely acknowledged to be one of the most important and successful developers and managers of housing in the state of California. His distinguished career in real estate has earned him honor and recognition from virtually every professional organization in his field, including the "Man of the Year" award from the National Housing Conference. He has received accolades from numerous charitable groups for his work on behalf of those in need of affordable housing. As a member of the Chairman's Council of the Weingart Center, he has worked tirelessly to provide leadership and to seek innovative solutions to break the cycle of homelessness in Los Angeles.

Jona was born in Lvov, Poland in 1927. Out of fear for his life, his parents smuggled him out of Europe in 1942. He was sent to refugee camps in pre-Israel Palestine and later served in the Israeli Navy and the Merchant Marines in the military actions of 1948 and 1949 that resulted in the creation of the State of Israel. In 1953, he immigrated to the United States, traveling by bus from Boston to California and settling in Los Angeles because its climate reminded him of Israel.

Teaming up with Sol Kest, he formed G & K Industries, an innovative leader in the Southern California real estate market. Among the great accomplishments of this important company is the development of the Marina Pointe Apartments in Marina del Rey.

The great energy that has made Jona so successful in his business endeavors also fueled his tireless work on behalf of the Jewish people and the cause of remembrance. He has been honored with the National Conference of Christians and Jews Humanitarian Award, the American Jewish Congress Civil

Achievement Award, and the President's Club Award of the B'nai B'rith, among many others. He is a member of the American Friends of Tel Aviv University and a great supporter of the Israel Philharmonic.

Among the greatest achievements, of Jona and his wife, Doretta are their two outstanding daughters, and among the greatest pleasures they enjoy is time spent with their grandson and granddaughter.

It is a great pleasure today to honor Jona Goldrich as a great champion of the Jewish Community in California and in Israel and to congratulate him on his philanthropic and professional service. We take pleasure in inviting our colleagues to join us in this salute to Jona.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF ROBERT E. LANGSTON OF THE U.S. PARK POLICE

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2001

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Chief Robert E. Langston of the U.S. Park Police on his more than 35 year career to law enforcement to the government of the U.S. and the U.S. Park police. Chief Langston retired from public service on April 7, 2001. His exceptional career began from his graduation of Florida State University with a B.S. in Police Administration, where he began his U.S. Park Police Career in August 1965 as a patrolman covering foot, cruiser, and motorcycle beats.

Upon promotion to Sergeant in 1971, he was assigned to the Training Branch, then to the Operations Divisions as a patrol Sergeant, followed by duty as a Motorcycle Unit supervisor. Promoted to Lieutenant in 1973, he served as a Shift commander before assuming command to the Communications Section. In 1975 he was promoted to Captain, first serving as Watch Commander and then assigned to the National Park Service's Southeast Region headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, where he served as Law Enforcement Specialist. After 2 years he returned to Washington, D.C. to the Operations Division as Commander of the Central District. Upon promotion to major in 1982, he saw duty at the National Park Service's Headquarters until his 1984 promotion to Deputy Chief in charge of the Field Office Divisions. Prior to his promotion to Assistant Chief in 1988, Langston also headed the Operations Divisions. Then in September 1991, Chief Langston was appointed to the duty of Chief of Police of the U.S. Park Service.

As Chief of one of the Nation's oldest law enforcement agencies, he was responsible for a force of 700 officers and 135 civilian employees assigned to National Park Service lands, parkways, monuments, and memorials in the greater Washington, D.C. area, the Gateway National Recreation Area, including the Statute of Liberty in New York, and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, including the Presidio, in California. Members of the force are also detailed to the Federal Law enforcement Training Center in Brunswick, Georgia.

Active in numerous civic and professional organizations, the Washington, D.C. native

was a member and past chairman of the Police Chiefs Steering Committee for the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments, a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the D.C. Law Enforcement Executive Forum, the FBI National Executive Forum, the FBI National Executive Institute-Police Executive Research Forum, and a former president of the FBI National Academy Associates, District of Columbia Chapter. He was also a member and past president of the Board of Directors, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Chapter. He is also a past member of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Board. He has received numerous awards and honors for his professional contributions.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that we will clearly miss an inspirational member of the U.S. Park Police like Chief Robert E. Langston. I am sure that I speak for many when I say that his tireless work for the U.S. Park Police will not soon be forgotten and that we are very thankful. I would like to personally wish him well in this new stage of his life and know that he will continue to be a presence in Washington. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable man.

Chief Langston and his wife, Beverly, have two children, a son Robert and a daughter Kellie.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIKH NATION ON VAISAKHI DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, April 13 was the anniversary of the founding of the Sikh Nation by Guru Gobind Singh, called Vaisakhi Day. It is the most important of Sikh holidays. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Sikhs on Vaisakhi Day.

Sikhs have made many contributions to American life in fields ranging from agriculture to law to medicine. One Sikh, Dalip Singh Saund, even served in the House of Representatives, representing a California district in the late 50s to the early 1960s.

Sikhs are suffering from significant persecution in India. Since 1984, according to The Politics of Genocide by Inderjit Singh Jaijee, over 250,000 Sikhs have been killed by the Indian government. A new report from the Movement Against State Repression—an organization that should not be necessary in a democracy—confirms that tens of thousands of Sikh political prisoners are being held in illegal detention in India without charge or trial, some for as long as 17 years! This confirms what Amnesty International had previously reported. 19 of us from both parties sent a letter to the President last month urging him to get involved in freeing these political prisoners.

This is part of a pattern of repression against religious minorities that engulfs India. In India, there has been an ongoing campaign of terror against the Christian community since Christmas 1998, which many of us have discussed in the RECORD. It has included killing priests, burning churches, raping nuns, and burning a missionary and his two young sons to death in their jeep while they slept. Muslims have also been subjected to fierce religious oppression. It is time for India to live up to the standards of a democratic state.